



STATE OF MICHIGAN

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING

K. L. COOL
DIRECTOR

April 12, 2004

TO: K. L. Cool, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: 2004 Fall Wild Turkey Season Dates and License Quotas

Authority:

Section 3.300a of the Wildlife Conservation Order authorizes the Director to establish hunt periods and management unit license quotas for turkey hunting based upon objectives for each unit.

Discussion and Background:

The fall wild turkey season is designed to stabilize or reduce wild turkey numbers in these wild turkey management units to meet the local goals recommended by Wildlife Management Unit Supervisors. These goals incorporate the social and biological carrying capacity of these turkey management units. License quotas are developed to harvest the desired number of turkeys to meet the management goal. Applicants may choose one hunt period on their application. After the drawing, if licenses are still available, the remaining licenses will be issued on a first-come, first-served basis to unsuccessful applicants in the license lottery. Beginning one week after licenses become available to unsuccessful applicants, any remaining leftover licenses will be made available to all hunters on a first-come, first-served basis. A total of 40,800 (8,700 General; 32,100 Private) licenses will be made available through a lottery in the following management units:

General Licenses - Valid on all Land Ownerships

HUNT NUMBER	OPEN UNIT	OPEN SEASON	LICENSE QUOTA
401	A	October 4 through November 9	800
402	J	October 4 through November 9	5,000
403	L	October 4 through November 9	200
404	M	October 4 through November 9	600
405	N	October 4 through November 9	400
406	O	October 4 through November 9	1,500
407	W	October 4 through November 9	200

Private Land Licenses - Valid on Private Land Only

HUNT NUMBER	OPEN UNIT	OPEN SEASON	LICENSE QUOTA
408	E	October 4 through November 9	1,800
409	G	October 4 through November 9	3,200
410	GA	October 4 through November 9	3,000
411	GB	October 4 through November 9	3,500
412	GC	October 4 through November 9	2,000
413	L	October 4 through November 9	10,000
414	M	October 4 through November 9	600
415	N	October 4 through November 9	600
416	O	October 4 through November 9	1,000
417	Q	October 4 through November 9	1,200
418	T	October 4 through November 9	500
419	W	October 4 through November 9	4,000
420	WA	October 4 through November 9	700

Each successful applicant will be issued one license. Unsuccessful applicants will be eligible to purchase a leftover license. Over-the-counter leftover licenses may be sold to all hunters one week after leftover licenses become available to unsuccessful applicants. A person may purchase only one license for the fall turkey hunting season.

Recommendation:

We recommend that the 2004 fall wild turkey season dates and license quotas be approved. The Wildlife Division Chief may authorize minor changes in quotas based on experience with population densities, hunter satisfaction levels, hunter application rates, or hunter survey results.

This item appeared in the Department's April 26, 2004, Calendar and is eligible for approval on or after May 7, 2004.

Rebecca A. Humphries, Chief
Wildlife Division

Alan Marble, Acting Chief
Law Enforcement Division

George E. Burgoyne, Jr.
Resource Management Deputy

I approve the staff recommendation.

K. L. Cool
Director

Date Approved